

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Stephen P. Goff, et al.

Serial No.: NOT YET KNOWN

Filed : December 6, 2001

For : TWO-HYBRID ASSAY THAT DETECTS HIV-1 REVERSE
TRANSCRIPTASE DIMERIZATION

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
December 6, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, V.A. 22202
ATTN: Box Patent Applications

SIR:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-3, 5-60 and 62-64 without prejudice or disclaimer to applicants' rights to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a later-filed application. Please amend claims 82, 87 and 103 as follows:

--82. (Amended) A composition comprising the compound of claim 66 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.--

--87. (Amended) A method of enhancing formation of a complex between a p66 subunit polypeptide of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase and a p51 subunit polypeptide of reverse transcriptase, which comprises contacting the p66 and p51 subunits with an effective amount of the compound of claim 66, so as to thereby enhance formation of a

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complex between the p66 subunit polypeptide and the
p51 subunit polypeptide of HIV-1 reverse
transcriptase.--

--103. (Amended) A method of inhibiting the growth of HIV-1
comprising administering the compound of claim 66,
alone or in combination with a known NNRTI, in an
amount effective to inhibit HIV-1.--

Remarks:


Claims 1-108 were pending in the subject application. Applicants
have hereinabove canceled claims 1-3, 5-60 and 62-64 without
prejudice or disclaimer to their right to pursue the subject
matter of these claims in a later-filed application and amended
claims 82, 87 and 103. This amendment does not involve any issue
of new matter. Therefore entry of this amendment is respectfully
requested such that claims 4, 61 and 65-108 will be pending.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing
prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned
attorneys invites the Examiner to telephone either of them at the
number provided below.

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No fee, in addition to the enclosed \$1208.00 fee, which includes the \$710.00 filing fee and the \$468.00 fee for additional claims, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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Exhibit A

- 82. (Amended) A composition comprising [at least one] the compound of [any one of] claim[s] 66[-81] and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.--
- 87. (Amended) A method of enhancing formation of a complex between a p66 subunit polypeptide of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase and a p51 subunit polypeptide of reverse transcriptase, which comprises contacting the p66 and p51 subunits with an effective amount of [at least one] the compound of [any one of] claim[s] 66[-81], so as to thereby enhance formation of a complex between the p66 subunit polypeptide and the p51 subunit polypeptide of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase.--
- 103. (Amended) A method of inhibiting the growth of HIV-1 comprising administering [at least one] the compound of [any one of] claim[s] 66[-81], alone or in combination with a known NNRTI, in an amount effective to inhibit HIV-1.--